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REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO ABANDONED APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14(a)

In re Application of	
Application Number: 07/337,566	Filed: 4-13-89
Group Art Unit:	Examiner:

Paper No. #35

WITNESSED BY
OCT 20 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby request access under 37 CFR 1.14(a)(3)(iv) to the application file record of the above-identified ABANDONED application, which is: (CHECK ONE)

___ (A) referred to in United States Patent Number 5418752, column ____.

___ (B) referred to in an application that is open to public inspection as set forth in 37 CFR 1.11, i.e., Application No. ____ filed ____, on page ____ of paper number ____.

___ (C) an application that claims the benefit of the filing date of an application that is open to public inspection, i.e., Application No. ____, filed ____, or

___ (D) an application in which the applicant has filed an authorization to lay open the complete application to the public.

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US005418752A

United States Patent [19]

Harari et al.

[11] Patent Number: 5,418,752

[45] Date of Patent: May 23, 1995

[54] **FLASH EEPROM SYSTEM WITH ERASE SECTOR SELECT**

[75] Inventors: **Eliyahou Harari**, Los Gatos; **Robert D. Norman**, San Jose; **Sanjay Mehrotra**, Milpitas, all of Calif.

[73] Assignee: **Sundisk Corporation**, Santa Clara, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: **963,851**

[22] Filed: **Oct. 20, 1992**

Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of Ser. No. 337,566, Apr. 13, 1989, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **G11C 7/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **365/218**; 365/185; 365/900

[58] **Field of Search** 365/185, 218, 900, 230.03

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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R. Wilson, "1-Mbit flash memories seek their role in system design", Computer Design, Mar. 1, 1989, pp. 30 and 32.

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A system of Flash EEprom memory chips with controlling circuits serves as non-volatile memory such as that provided by magnetic disk drives. Improvements include selective multiple sector erase, in which any combinations of Flash sectors may be erased together. Selective sectors among the selected combination may also be de-selected during the erase operation. Another improvement is the ability to remap and replace defective cells with substitute cells. The remapping is performed automatically as soon as a defective cell is detected. When the number of defects in a Flash sector becomes large, the whole sector is remapped. Yet another improvement is the use of a write cache to reduce the number of writes to the Flash EEprom memory, thereby minimizing the stress to the device from undergoing too many write/erase cycling.

4 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets